

AUSTRALASIAN CERATOPOGONIDAE (DIPTERA, NEMATOCERA).

PART IX. THE GENUS MACRUROHELEA.

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(Five Text-figures.)

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Synopsis.

The genus *Macrurohelea*, previously known only from South America, has recently been found in Australia. A new species, *M. commoni*, is described.

Genus MACRUROHELEA Ingram & Macfie.

Ingram, A., & Macfie, J. W. S. 1931. "Ceratopogonidae" in "Diptera of Patagonia and South Chile", Part II, fascicle I. (British Museum, Natural History): 203.

Generic Characters.

Wing with costa extending at least two-thirds of wing length, with two very distinct radial cells, the second much longer than the first, median fork distinctly petiolate; surface of wing with microtrichia but macrotrichia absent; anal angle pronounced, approximately rectangular. Eyes rather widely separated; antennal segments not elongated other than 11-15 which do not exceed 2-4 times their width. Thorax without tubercles or humeral pits. Legs with no segment swollen or armed; claws equal, not elongated. Abdomen of female with tenth segment long and cylindrical and bent forward (this character is unique to the genus); lamellae well developed. The genus belongs to the tribe Stilobezziini of Wirth (1952) and would fall in the *Stilobezzia* group of Lee (1948).

MACRUROHELEA COMMONI, n. sp.

Types: Holotype ♀ and 6 ♀♀ paratypes in SPHTM except for two paratypes, one each in CSIRO and USNM.

Type Locality: All of the type series from Clyde Mountain, New South Wales (2,400 feet), taken in light trap, 21.ix.1960, I. F. B. Common and M. Upton.

Description (Female).

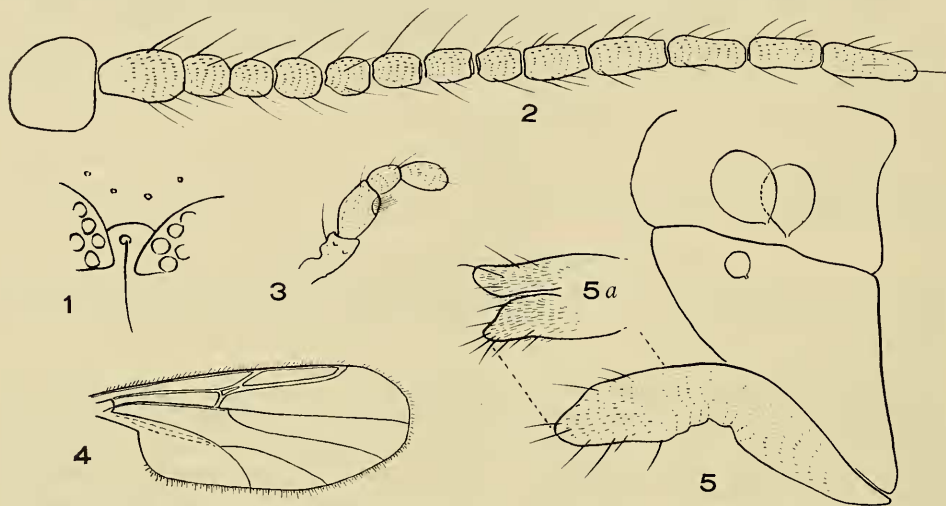
Head: Eyes rather widely separated (Text-fig. 1); antennae (Text-fig. 2) with segment 3 a little more than twice as long as 4, segments 4-10 barrel-shaped, tending to become slightly vasiform in the more distal segments, 11-15 together slightly shorter than 3-10 together. Mouth parts short, less than half height of head; palpi with third segment only slightly enlarged, bearing a shallow sensory pit distally (Text-fig. 3).

Thorax: In the mounted specimens this appears to be uniformly brown with pale halteres. Legs brown, without markings, unmodified except for bilobed fourth tarsal segments, and fifth twice as long as fourth; although the fifth segments are narrowed basally they are not obviously swollen distally; claws simple. Wings as illustrated (Text-fig. 4).

Abdomen: Uniformly brown with tenth segment elongated and bent forward (Text-fig. 5); lamellae pronounced, about equal in length to tenth segment and usually bent at an angle to the tenth segment, away from the body. Two subequal and sub-spherical spermathecae with only rudimentary ducts; a third small spermatheca is present in the holotype (Text-fig. 5) but absent in the paratypes.

Measurements: (from holotype): Wing length 1.4 mm. Antennae, segments 3-10, 252 μ , 11-15, 228 μ . Segments of palp: 2, 30 μ ; 3, 36 μ ; 4, 21 μ ; 5, 30 μ . Hind leg: femur, 456 μ ; tibia, 468 μ ; tarsal segments 1-5 respectively, 180 μ , 84 μ , 48 μ , 30 μ , 60 μ , claw 36 μ . Spermathecae: 36 \times 36 μ , 36 \times 30 μ , 12 \times 12 μ .

Differentiation from other species: Of the two known species of *Macrurohelea* from the south of South America *M. thoracica* I. & M. is distinctly larger and lighter in colour than *M. commoni*. The new species is closest to *M. caudata* I. & M, but differs in the absence of the intercalary fork and of well-developed ducts on the spermathecae. In



Text-figures 1-5. 1, Interorbital space. 2, Antenna. 3, Palp. 4, Wing. 5, Apex of abdomen including spermathecae. 5a, Lamellae in ventral view. All $\times 425$ except wing, $\times 30$.

addition its lamellae are longer, almost equal in length to the tenth segment instead of about one-third that segment and the fourth tarsal segments are bilobed instead of obliquely truncated.

References.

- LEE, D. J., 1948.—Australasian Ceratopogonidae (Diptera, Nematocera). Part I. PROC. LINN. Soc. N.S.W., 72: 313.
 WIRTH, W. W., 1952.—The Heleidae of California. *Univ. of Calif. Pub. in Entom.*, Vol. 9, No. 2: 95.